

COMMERCIAL STREET TASK FORCE MEETING

July 22, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Busch Building - Room L45

MEMBERS

PRESENT: Nicholas Ibarra, Chair; Cynthia Rushefsky; Doug Burlison; Mike MacPherson; Pauletta Dunn; Andrew Litchy; Lyle Foster; Jack Pugh; Rusty Worley; Steve Weimer; Mary Collette; Jim Harriger; and Bob Pilkington.

MEMBERS

ABSENT: Laura Derrick; Les Ford; Mark Davis; and Phyllis Ferguson Phillips.

STAFF

PRESENT: Ralph Rognstad, Director of Planning and Lisa Harley, City Clerk's office.

GUESTS: Rorie Orgeron; Forrest Brown; A. O'Neill; Lynn Remmark; Ida Barry; and Janice Ellison.

Nicholas Ibarra called the meeting to order at approximately 6:35 p.m.

Mr. Ibarra informed the Task Force that these meetings will be held each Wednesday, through September 30, 2009, and will last approximately two hours. He added that the meetings will dismiss early if the Task Force believes all topics for the evening have been thoroughly discussed.

Ralph Rognstad, Director of Planning, gave a brief overview of what the charge of the Task Force is and what these meetings will consist of. (* A schedule of the upcoming meetings is on file with the City Clerk's office.)

Mr. Rognstad noted a Public Hearing is tentatively scheduled for September 2, 2009.

Mary Collette asked if citizens would be able to provide comments and ask questions at each meeting of the Task Force. Mr. Ibarra responded that at each meeting the presenter could decide whether to take questions or comments from the public.

Mr. Rognstad noted that the process, after the Task Force makes a recommendation, would take an additional 3-4 months before being presented to Council for review and approval.

Mr. Rognstad noted he has spoken with the Hotel/Motel Association regarding the possibility of a Hostel being placed on Commercial Street. Mr. Ibarra asked when Mr. Rognstad could present his report of this discussion to the Task Force. Mr. Rognstad responded he would write his report and present it to the Task Force at their upcoming meeting.

Ms. Collette asked staff to prepare documents for the Task Force that outline the history of Commercial Street. Mike MacPherson responded the information that pertained to each meeting topic would be presented at that meeting. Mr. Ibarra noted he would like all information to be presented one week prior to the meeting on that particular topic.

Mr. Ibarra noted he would ask each member of the Task Force to give a presentation on their recommendations at the deliberation meeting scheduled for September 9, 2009.

Mr. Ibarra asked members to limit their emails within the Task Force, unless the email is copied to Mr. Ibarra and Ms. Harley.

Mr. Ibarra noted he knew there would be lots of emotion within the Task Force and he asked that members be respectful to one another and remember that each member is there to improve Commercial Street.

Mr. Burlison asked staff if they could also present the Task Force with information regarding building codes that are applicable in this area. Mr. Rognstad noted that due to the number of building code regulations, perhaps Nick Heatherly, Director of Building Development Services, should be asked to attend a meeting and answer any questions members may have.

Mr. Ibarra asked if the October 2, 2009 deadline, for the Task Force to make a recommendation cannot be met, could the Task Force have a couple more weeks for further discussion. Mr. Rognstad responded affirmatively noting that two weeks should not cause an issue for staff.

Rusty Worley expressed his belief that the Task Force's biggest challenge will be to think creatively to come up with a solution to make residents, businesses, and social service agencies happy.

Mr. MacPherson noted Olivia Hough, Planning Department, will be giving the staff presentation at the July 29, 2009 meeting. Mr. Ibarra asked if members would prefer to receive all information electronically. All members agreed, with the exception of Ms. Rushefsky who asked to receive a hard copy of all information.

Ms. Collette asked if citizens could be added to the email list for Task Force information. Mr. Ibarra asked if that would cause a burden for staff. Ms. Harley responded that it would not cause a burden to add citizens to the email list. Mr. Ibarra asked any interested citizens to give the email address to staff.

With no further business to come before the Task Force the meeting was adjourned.

COMMERCIAL STREET TASK FORCE

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

ALL MEETINGS TO START AT 6:30PM

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2009-INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

Speakers: Councilman Nick Ibarra, Director of Planning and Development, Ralph Rognstad

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

WEDNESDAY, JULY 29, 2009- COMMERCIAL STREET STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS

Speaker: Olivia Hough, Senior Planner, Economic Development Division

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009- PLANNING AND ZONING ROLE AND FUNCTION

Speakers: Ralph Rognstad, Director of Planning and Development

Mike MacPherson, Principal Planner, Development Review

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2009- HISTORIC PRESERVATION ELEMENT

Speaker: Laura Derrick, Landmark's Board

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2009-VICTORY MISSION SOCIAL SERVICES STUDY

Speakers: Jim Harriger, Executive Director, Victory Mission

Jim Downing

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

AUGUST 26, 2009-TIF REDEVELOPMENT PLAN/COMMERCIAL STREET CID

Speakers: Mike MacPherson, Principal Planner

Rusty Worley, Executive Director Urban District Alliance

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

SEPTEMBER 2, 2009-PUBLIC HEARING

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

SEPTEMBER 9, 2009-DISCUSSION FOR PROPOSAL

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

SEPTEMBER 23, 2009-REVIEW OF FINAL DRAFT

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45

SEPTEMBER 30, 2009-FURTHER REVIEW AND DISCUSSION IF NECESSARY.

Meeting location: Busch Municipal Building, L-45